

Billing Code 4310-94

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Bay-Delta Advisory Council Meetings

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Meetings

SUMMARY: The Bay-Delta Advisory Council (BDAC) will meet to discuss several issues including: review of the CALFED Programmatic EIR/EIS, a presentation by members of the Southern California business community on their perspective on CALFED, updates on proposals for further analysis of the Program, and updates on the progress of the BDAC Work Groups on Ecosystem Restoration, Water Transfers, Finances, and Assurances. The Ecosystem Roundtable (a subcommittee of the BDAC) will meet to discuss several issues including: additional proposals, designated actions, and focused grants for FY 98 funding, revised planning process, funding coordination, and other issues. These meetings are open to the public. Interested persons may make oral statements to the BDAC or to the Ecosystem Roundtable or may file written statements for consideration.

DATES: The Bay-Delta Advisory Council meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, 1998 and from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 1998. The Ecosystem Roundtable meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The Bay-Delta Advisory Council will meet at the Burbank Airport Hilton, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA. The Ecosystem Roundtable will meet at the State Water Resources Control Board, 901 P Street, Room 102, Sacramento, CA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For the BDAC meeting, contact Mary Selkirk, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, at (916) 657-2666. For the Ecosystem Roundtable meeting, contact Cindy Darling, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, at (916) 657-2666. If reasonable accommodation is needed due to a disability, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Office at (916) 653-6952 or TDD (916) 653-6934 at least one week prior to the meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta system) is a critically important part of California's natural environment and economy. In recognition of the serious problems facing the region and the complex resource management decisions that must be made, the state of California and the Federal government are working together to stabilize, protect, restore, and enhance the Bay-Delta system. The State and Federal agencies with management and regulatory responsibilities in the Bay-Delta system are working together as CALFED to provide policy direction and oversight for the process.

One area of Bay-Delta management includes the establishment of a joint State-Federal process to develop long-term solutions to problems in the Bay-Delta system related to fish and wildlife, water supply reliability, natural disasters, and water quality. The intent is to develop a comprehensive and balanced plan which addresses all of the resource problems. This effort, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (Program), is being carried out under the policy direction of CALFED. The Program is exploring and developing a long-term solution for a cooperative planning process that will determine the most appropriate strategy and actions necessary to improve water quality, restore health to the Bay-Delta ecosystem, provide for a variety of beneficial uses, and minimize Bay-Delta system vulnerability. A group of citizen advisors representing California's agricultural, environmental, urban, business, fishing, and other interests who have a stake in finding long-term solutions for the problems affecting the Bay-Delta system has been chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) as the Bay-Delta Advisory Council (BDAC) to advise CALFED on the program mission, problems to be addressed, and objectives for the Program. BDAC provides a forum to help ensure public participation, and will review reports and other materials prepared by CALFED staff. BDAC has established a subcommittee called the Ecosystem Roundtable to provide input on annual workplans to implement ecosystem restoration projects and programs.

Minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Program, Suite 1155, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday within 30 days following the meeting.



Roger Patterson

Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region

1/26/98

Date